August 2026 ISSUE NO. 664

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's EXCITER

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: **Second Tuesday** of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the **third Tuesday** of each month.
- On the **fourth Tuesday** of every month, in-person meeting at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks,

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit https://www.rars.org/public-service.php

frequently for our ham public service schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Date: August 11, 2026

Topic: Pico-Ballooning

Presenter: David Schneider N4LVD

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: In-Person and Zoom Meeting at 7:30 PM, More info at RARS.org

RARS In Person Gathering

Date: August 25, 2025

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church

Time: 7:00 PM

In-person Gathering at Ridge Road Baptist Church where there will be project tables, demos, snacks, and socializing.

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT
Tony O'Connor
K1OC
amocjr@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Chuck Till
K4RGN
k4rgn@outlook.com

SECRETARY
Josh Kurland
KR4BTW
904-318-3651
joshkr4btw@gmail.com

TREASURER
Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
KE4PAX@arrl.net

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Regular dues for licensed amateurs are $18 per year. (From July 1 through June 30.) Additional licensed immediate family members pay $5 each per year. Dues for licensed full-time students and licensed seniors 60 and over are $12 per year. Unlicensed individuals may become associate members for $9 per year. Applications for membership are available from the treasurer or on the RARS web site.

https://www.rars.org

EXciter

The EXciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The EXciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any pieces. The submission deadline for each month's EXciter is the Saturday that is ten days before the general meeting. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the EXciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

President's Message for August 2026

The first half of the calendar year was a busy time for RARS members and for amateur radio in general. In addition to our thrice-monthly in-person events and our periodic park activations, we had the NC QSO Party at the end of February, RARSfest at the beginning of April, and Field Day at the end of June. In between, many of our members attended the Orlando Hamcation, the Charlotte Hamfest, and the Dayton Hamvention. The DX Marathon and Straight Key Night kicked off the unofficial contest season on January 1st. Some of our members put up their own efforts for Winter Field Day.

Things quieted down after Field Day, but there is still plenty to do the second half of the year. The contest season is in full swing. The Huntsville and Shelby hamfests are at the end of August and beginning of September, respectively. Cooler weather brings more Portable Operating Group opportunities. Our HPSNC public service calendar (which started in March) continues through October.

October also brings the NC State Fair. Now, the State Fair is worth attending in any event. I get a kick out of seeing the livestock shows in the same space in which we hold RARS*fest*. The Jim Graham Building looks quite different with a foot of dirt on the floor and cattle instead of hams roaming around. Of particular relevance to us, though, is the ham radio exhibit. The purpose of the NC Ham Radio Exhibit (and here on Facebook) is promote the importance of amateur radio to the community.

Like all ham radio activities, the exhibit at the State Fair relies on volunteers to carry out its mission. Please consider signing up for a shift or several. Volunteers receive free parking and a pass to the fair on the day(s) of their shift(s). The exhibit typically has a HF station that volunteers can use to work a little DX and a VHF/UHF station to chat on the local repeaters. Although the JARS mobile communications vehicle is usually there, the ham radio exhibit is not affiliated with any club. Volunteers come from all over the state. Volunteering is also a great opportunity to meet hams you might not otherwise run into.

Speaking of JARS and volunteers, JARSfest is at the end the first week in November. It's one of my favorite hamfests, and it's in a new venue this year, The Farm at 95 in Selma, NC. JARS members routinely help us with RARS*fest*, so consider giving them a hand at JARSfest. The new location should be more accessible and hopefully eliminate the need for volunteers to arrive at zero dark thirty on the day of the fest.

The fall is also an important time for conducting RARS business. RARS directors and half the officers are up for election every year. (You can see the officers' terms on the Club Contacts page.) The candidates recommended by the nominating committee and approved by the board are presented to the members at the October membership meeting. The election takes place at the November membership meeting (so it is important that a quorum of members attend). The elected candidates are installed at the December meeting and assume their duties on the first day of the New Year.

So, still plenty of amateur radio activity left this year. Hope to catch you down the log!

73,
Tony
K1OC

July 14, 2026 RARS meeting

President Tony O'Connor, K1OC called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. He reminded Zoom participants of a few notes about using Zoom. See the minutes for all the details during the meeting on page 22.

President Tony O'Connor, K1OC called the meeting to order

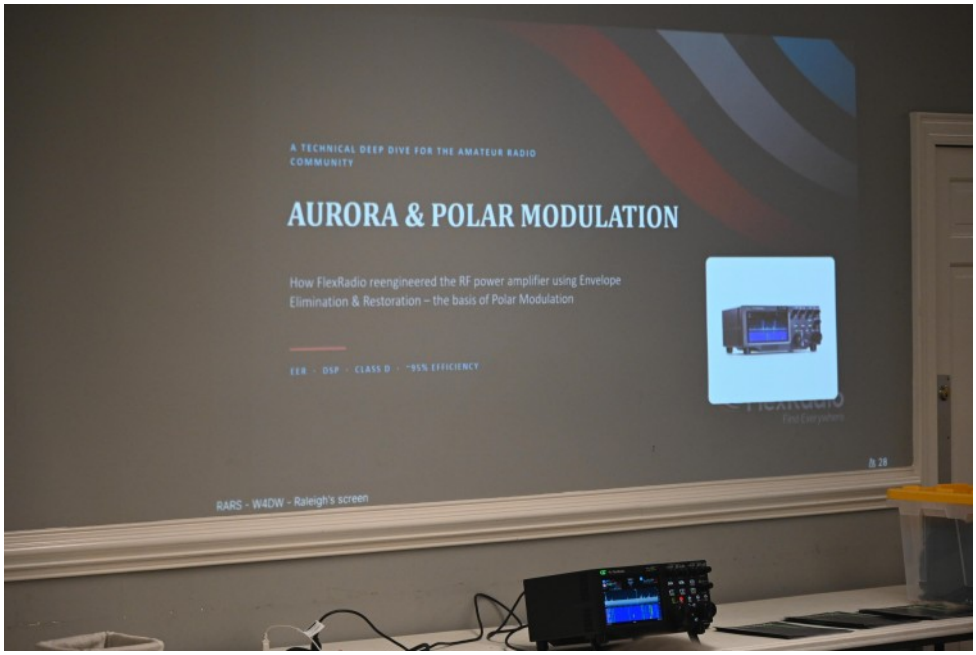
He is on Zoom at the same time

Door Prize winners Jimmie Brown, KR4MNJ; Frank Scaraglino, KA2FWC; Mark Freeze, WD4KSE

Tim Ellison **W4TME** presenting the New Aurora Radios from Flex

Live Demo of the new Aurora Radio

July 14, 2026 RARS meeting, continued


A TECHNICAL DEEP DIVE FOR THE AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY
AURORA & POLAR MODULATION
How FlexRadio reengineered the RF power amplifier using Envelope Elimination & Restoration – the basis of Polar Modulation
RARS - W4DW - Raleigh's screen

Aurora & Polar Modulation

AB40Z ALAN	Jim KM4WRK
Bill Whitson - KZ4LW	Joe KM4WRQ
Bob N4GEB	Joe N4BJH
Christine KR4ANI	KE4IHX - Al
Chuck WJ4A	KX4WY
Chuck Till K4RGN	Rich KR4LH Apex
Chuck K4HF - Raleigh	Robert Pantazes W2ARP
Ernie NC4EW	Sam KQ4AQJ
Fireflies.ai Notetaker Mel	Samsung SM-S928U
Gary - KQ4BTC	Smittys phone
GLENN NC4KG	Tom Schwartz NC4TS
Grace - KR4KDW	W2AAT Corky
Greg KE4PAX	WA4OSS CHARLES
Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX	Will WA4GK

28 on Zoom

July 14, 2026 RARS meeting, continued

Callsign	Name	Callsign	Name
K1OC	OConnor, Jr., Tony	KZ4VP	Sutherland, Roy
K4MHM	Merner, Murray	N1JDW	Joondeph, Mike
K4RGN	Till, Chuck	N4AEW	Bauer, Ernie
K9GP	Powell, Glen	N4TL	Lewis, Tom
K9IUT	Wheeler, Barry	N7RYN	Reed, Ryan
KA2DEW	Torborg, Tadd	NA4DE	Popan, Flavius
KA2FWC	Scaraglino, Frank	NC4FG	Gold, Fin
KB2TNR	Torborg, Nancy	NF2N	Kaskawits, Stu
KB8QNE	Osbrink, Jonathan	NY4NC	Haffly, Stephen
KD4UNX	LHommedieu, Daniel	W4DAZ	Joseph Spratt
KK4EBJ	Montague, Rob	W4NAB	Baker, Nick
KK4PWJ	Bazemore, Brad	W4TSW	Walker, Tara
KN4FVH	Hedge, Devin	W8WZ	Davis, Carl
KR4BTW	Kurland, Josh	WA4JCK	Jones, Dale
KR4EPO	Owens, Jr, Tom	WB2HDM	Jim Briggs
KR4MHI	Lepla, Hayden	WB4DCM	Swindell, Charles
KR4MNJ	Brown, Jimmie	WD4KSE	Mark Freeze
KR4NLN	Gjurich, Alexander	WD4RDT	Goss, Jr., Wilbur
KR7PDX	Conifer, Ryan	WZ0Q	Mason, Dennis
KZ4LY	Johnson, MKJ	NOCALL	Leggett, Matthew

40 People attended in person plus 28 on Zoom

68 total

RARS MONTHLY SUPPER , IHOP RESTAURANT
JULY 21, 2026

Names, starting left front and clockwise around the picture.

Dennis Mason, WZ0Q; Kirk Ellis, KI4RK; Dale Jones, WA4JCK; Susan Jones, WA4AKB; Chris Buttine, KC1GN; Gillian Zech, KR4HKI; Stuart Kaskawits, NF2N; Sherry Kaskawits, KG4UMR; Andrea Buttine; Bob Chew, K4YXM; Dave Price, K4KDP; Chuck Littlewood, K4HF;

Ken Latchum, AD4GX talking the picture

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, July 28, 2026

Ridge Road Baptist Church, at 2011 Ridge Road, Raleigh

The meeting starts at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, but we start setting up at 6:00 pm, and you are welcome to bring your own ham radio equipment and projects to demonstrate, show off, or just work on with other like-minded hams -- we have plenty of tables. You might also find sources of coax, connectors, zip cord, Powerpoles®, and whatnot.

Miscellaneous pictures taken at the gathering by Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW

Monthly In-Person RARS Gathering, July 28, continued

Call Sign	Name	Call Sign	Name
K1OC	O'Connor, Tony	KK4EBJ	Montague, Rob
KR4DLO	O'Connor, III, Tony	KR4MHI	Lepla, Hayden
KY4WM	McCrary, Craig	N4BJH	Haggerty, Jr, Joe
W4NYA	Hartung, Ellie	No Call	Brown, Jr., James
KR4KDW	Goverman, Grace	KR4MNJ	Brown, Jimmie
KR4NLN	Gjurich, Alex	NA4DE	Popan, Flavius
K4KDP	Price, Dave	NY4NC	Haffly, Stephen
AK4CH	Radford, Rodney	K2HJX	Lindsley, Jeremy
KI4RK	Ellis, Kirk	KZ4VP	Sutherland, Roy
No Call	Brown, Tim	KB2TNR	Torborg, Nancy
No Call	Brown, Anna	K4ME	Packard, Ben
N7RYN	Reed, Ryan	K4CBW	West III, Brantley
KR4KDM	Glassman, Jordan	KQ4GOB	Berzinskas, Daniel
No Call	Feather, Clifford	WW1H	Berzinskas, III, Bill
AC1WX	Pickard, Samantha	KD4UNX	L'Hommedieu, Daniel
NC4DK	Keith, Dennis	NC4TI	Boling, John
WZ0Q	Mason, Dennis	N4TL	Lewis, Tom
K4GRU	Barnes, Nathan	KR4LH	Hall, Rich
KO4HUI	Bowser, Rob	W4OFO	Burt, David
No Call	Bowser, John	KO4ZHO	Seaman, Jim
W7AMD	Heavens, Christopher	K4JAH	Hollowell, John
KB4ZM	Haga, Josh	No Call	Hollowell, Eric
K9IUT	Wheeler, Barry	KR4KAI	Tsakanikas, Maximos
WJ4A	North, Chuck	NF2N	Kaskawits, Stu
KB8QNE	Osbrink, Jonathan	KA2DEW	Torborg, Tadd

50 People attended the July Gathering

Phillips Screws and others

There are more than one type of cross-head screws. I did a google search “What type of screw is used on the covers of Japanese Amateur radios?”.

Answer

*Japanese amateur radios (such as Icom, Yaesu, and Kenwood) use **JIS (Japanese Industrial Standard)** cross-point machine screws, typically metric sizes like **M3 or M4** with pan or flat heads. [1, 2, 3]*

Screw and Head Specifications

***Standard Type:** JIS B 1012 cross-recessed head (frequently mistaken for standard Phillips).*

***Common Sizes:** Metric **M3** (e.g., M3x5 or M3x6) and **M4** machine screws for outer covers and chassis casing.*

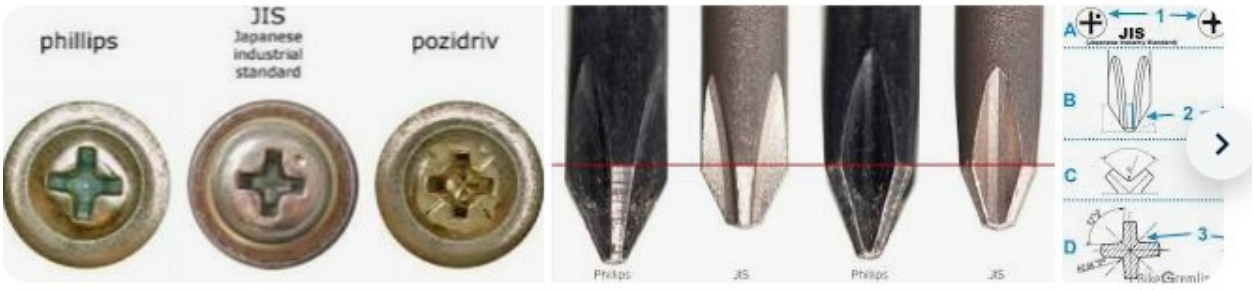
***Distinguishing Mark:** JIS screw heads often feature a small single dot or indented mark stamped on the outer edge of the head. [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7]*

Maintenance Tip

***Tooling:** Always use a proper JIS Screwdriver rather than a standard US Phillips driver. Phillips drivers will "cam out" and easily strip the softer metal slots on Japanese hardware. [1, 3]*

More info on JIS Screws.

JIS (Japanese Industrial Standard) screws are cross-head fasteners found on Japanese-manufactured goods like motorcycles, cars, and electronics. While they resemble Phillips screws, they have a different head geometry. Using a standard Phillips screwdriver on a JIS screw often strips the head, making a proper JIS driver essential. [1, 2, 3, 4]



Here are two comments from the IC-9700 Groups io.

Invest in a JIS screwdriver! The majority of Japanese made equipment uses JIS screws.

*A further word on JIS screwdriver *sizes* for electronics: The most common sizes needed are #00, #0 and #1. Occasionally you need the smaller #000.JIS larger than #1, such as #2, are seen in cars.*

HAM Radio Lunch

Every Thursday at the New York Diner
909 McKnight Drive, Knightdale, NC 27545
July 30, 2026, 11 AM

Names clockwise around the table.

Dennis Mason, WZ0Q; Alan Pitegoff, AB4OZ; Chuck Littlewood, K4HF;
Walt Chambers, K4ZVK; Dave; Dave Guthrie, WA4DAG; Chris Buttine, KC1GM;
John Aceti, N1GMV; Charles Swindell, WB4DCM;
Charles Strickland, WA4OSS; Alex Gjurich, KR4NLN
Tom Lewis, N4TL, taking the picture

Alex Gjurich, KR4NLN, upgraded to General at the test session. Welcome to the hobby!!!
Tech License: 7/01/2026
General License: 7/28/2026

RARS Member Birthdays

Darrel	KD4CMA	8/2
Joe	KR4AFI	8/3
Lem	KI4YXS	8/4
Ellie	KR4FNZ	8/7
Greg	KQ4QXA	8/8
Clement	KD4BMA	8/8
Eric	NR4O	8/10
Andy	AA9P	8/10
Manny	KB4NC	8/14
Bob	KR4HOO	8/14
Jim	WB2HDM	8/15
Dennis Lofton		8/15
Bernard	W4BRB	8/17
Denny	KO4IBL	8/17
Mike	KM4BJV	8/18
John	WA4JC	8/18
Dave	W4EIP	8/18
Chuck	W3WZN	8/19
Jimmie	KR4MNJ	8/19
Bonnie	KK4OAK	8/19
Al	KE4IHX	8/20
Mike	KN4DRN	8/21
Jim	W8MGZ	8/22
Steve	N4BTS	8/22
Steve	KJ4BX	8/23
Susan	KR4LGG	8/24
Craig	KY4WM	8/24
John	K4EB	8/25
Jeremy	K2HJX	8/26
Kevin	KR4CWT	8/26
Bill	WW1H	8/27
David	KN4QT	8/29
JB	KJ4ACB	8/30
Mike	KK4ETS	8/30
Tenzin	KR4AHD	8/30

RARS New Members

Olivia Boulware	KR4ILJ
Alex Gjurich	KR4NLN
Judah Jenkins	KR4OAI
Marc Chmielewski	KR4OAH

The NC Ham Radio Exhibit 2026 - Oct 15-25 2026

"CQ CQ all NC amateur radio operators. The NC Ham Radio Exhibit is now accepting volunteer signups for this years exhibit at the NC State Fair. Volunteers can go to the website at https://hamradioexhibit.org/home. I would love to see you at the fair! If you are not familiar with this exhibit go to the website and check out the pictures and more information about the exhibit."

Note this website is under construction but the important part is the signup link.

Travis Russell, KN4WJL, (919) 518-6557

Time to Renew your Membership!

Please help RARS continue to provide quality programs, activities, and events for our club members. One of the ways we do this is through the RARS annual dues. The membership year is July 1- June 30, so it's time to renew!

Dues
Regular $18
Reduced (under 12 or over 60) $12
Student $12
Associate (not licensed) $9
Each additional family member $5
*Note: You have the option to renew for multiple years!

You can renew by mailing your dues or by paying on-line via PayPal.
1) Mail your dues to the RARS Treasurer at the following address:
RARS
c/o Greg Seamster
1405 Leanne Court
Raleigh, NC 27606

2) Pay online at https://www.rars.org/membership_renewal.php. Online payments are made via PayPal to Raleigh_ARS@earthlink.net.

Note: A PayPal account is not required to make a credit card payment.

Note: You can view your membership status and update data at https://www.rars.org/userprofile.php.

Thanks! RARS would not exist without its members.

Greg Seamster KE4PAX
RARS Treasurer

RARS Net Report

July 2026

31 2m nets: 383 checkins, 788 minutes duration

2 6m nets: 26 checkins, 36 minutes duration

Julie McCrary, KT4JR,

RARS net manager

RARS Classifieds

Copied from https://www.rars.org/classifieds.php

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.
Check the RARS Classified List on the RARS website regularly for new items.

Misc Ham Radio Gear

Posted July 30th, 2026 by: K4HF

Contact: K4HF

k4hf953@yahoo.com

1. ICOM IC-7600 160 thru 6 Meters, 100 Watt Transceiver with HM-36 hand mike, Anderson PP power cord and manual. Tested Excellent Condx $895

2. Hallicrafters SX-100 HF Communications Receiver with spkr and orig. manual Very good condx, Tested $160

RARS Classifieds continued

3. Hallicrafters SX-110 HF Communications Receiver with spkr and manual Good condx, tested $95

4. Hallicrafters TO Keyer. First Commercial Keyer. Tested $50

5. Elenco S-1325 Oscilloscope, 30 MHz, 2 channel, with probe and manual, works, $40

6. Daiwa CN-520 1.8 to 60 MHz, 200W and 2kw scales, swr/power meter, works $55

7. Uniden Bearcat Scanner, Model 147CLT 16 Channel tested $15

8. Vectronics PM-3-UV 144, 220, 440 MHz, 30/300 Watt swr/pwr meter. Tested but needs 12VDC Wall Wort $60

9. Kent Single Paddle Morse Paddle 2.64 lbs, black base, with lead very good condition $85

Thanks, Chuck

HAM looking for a used Icom 7300

Posted July 27th, 2026 by: K4WWR

Contact: K4WWR

rwalker63@aol.com

My bucket list, before I leave this planet is to own and operate a 7300. I will be 64 soon so...well you know. LOL I have 600 to spend. I live in Raleigh. Any help would be highly appreciated! Robert K4WWR KADU-2160 rwalker63@aol.com

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Kenwood TS830S HF Transceiver

Posted July 21st, 2026 by: K4HF

Contact: K4HF

k4hf953@yahoo.com

Kenwood TS830S 100 Watt 160 thru 10 Meter Transceiver, with built in power supply, manual, MC-50 base mike and cw filter. Tested $385

Thanks, Chuck

RARS Classifieds continued

Acom 2000A HF Amplifier

Posted July 21st, 2026 by: K4HF

Contact: K4HF

k4hf953@yahoo.com

Acom 2000A 1.5 KW 160 thru 10 Meters with frequency tracking and manual Tested Excellent Condx asking $3,200

Pictures available, no shipping - Thanks, Chuck

Icom 7300 Like new

Posted July 7th, 2026 by: N4GEB

Contact: N4GEB

brownr@mail.com

HF transceiver in mint condition. Covers 160 meters to 6 meters 100 watts. Includes the stock mic, power supply cord, data cable, memory card, and manual.

It also includes a full color owners manual bound, prism embroidery dust cover

$ 800

Send me an email if you have any questions or would like to come over and see it.

73s

Minutes, Board of Directors Meeting

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

JULY 7, 2026

7:00 PM on Zoom

1) Call to Order – Tony O'Connor K1OC

Board members present were:	Board members not present
Josh Kurland KR4BTW	Brad Bazemore KK4PWJ
Chuck Till K4RGN	Bob Starkenburg W4TTX
John Hollowell K4JAH	Will Gwaltney WA4GK
Julie McCrary KT4JR	Marty Young W4MY
Ryan Reed N7RYN	Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX
Tony O'Connor K1OC	Chuck Littlewood K4HF
Richard Hall KR4LH	
Fin Gold NC4FG	
Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ	
Tom Lewis N4TL	
Tadd Torborg KA2DEW	
Greg Seamster KE4PAX	
Nancy Torborg KB2TNR	

2) Quorum Call – Josh Kurland KR4BTW confirmed there was a quorum.

3) President O'Connor asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Minutes from the June 2026 Board Meeting. The motion was made, seconded, and approved.

4) Old Business

a) Update on By-Law Amendments - Tony K1OC

The board is planning to present the amendments to the Membership at the September club meeting. The Membership must be notified by mail 30 days in advance, which we plan to use a postcard with a link to the amendments to do. According to the club by-laws, the amendments must also be presented to the membership at the meeting before the meeting at which we will vote on them. President O'Connor will handle the mailing.

5) New Business

a) Nominating Committee Preview - Tony K1OC

The nominating committee will meet next month. President O'Connor asked VP Chuck Till K4RGN and Nancy Torbog KB2TNR to let him know if they thought we should make any changes to the nomination process.

b) Youth Chair - Tony K1OC

The Board discussed the need for a Youth Chair and whether it should be a Board position. The Board noted that the club's by-laws require that Board members be RARS members for at least one year before becoming members of the Board.

c) 6m Youth Net - Tony K1OC

The Youth Chair discussion then slid into a wider talk regarding a dedicated Youth Net. Alan AB4OZ asked President O'Connor why a Youth Net should be on 6m. President O'Connor replied that the net should be for youth only and most RARS members are not on 6m, and the equipment will be provided to participating youth members. Tadd KA2DEW added that the equipment is available and affordable, and that we can set up a new dedicated repeater for this purpose. John K4JAH suggested that further discussion be held in the Discord chat.

d) Request to Remove Antenna from Former Home of Joseph Saah WB5ZPQ - Richard KR4LH

A woman living in Cleveland, NC has contacted Rich and asked for RARS's help to take down a tower which she believes RARS had previously erected. Rich contacted Travis Russel KN4WJL if JARS would be interested. Fin NC4FG and Tom N4TL will also look at it.

6) Officer's Reports

a) **Vice-President's Report** Chuck Till K4RGN

The program for next week will be a demonstration of the new Aurora Flex radio. The speaker will need a 120v outlet and extension cord, and an antenna. Tadd KA2DEW will bring enough coax with UHF adapters. Chuck also reported that he will be at the next meeting in-person.

b) **Treasurer's Report** Greg Seamster KE4PAX

Greg is waiting on 288 dues renewals and will put information in the EXciter this month. He has made payments to the Ridge Road Baptist Church through the end of the fiscal year and to the storage unit through June 2028. The American Tower rent was paid in June and a donation to the Carolina 440 net was also made.

RARS has seen 19 new members since the last board meeting, putting the total membership count at 625 with 20 unlicensed members.

c) **Secretary's Report** Josh Kurland KR4BTW

The Minutes are up to date. Josh will be taking over Zoom Room duties from John K4JAH.

7) Committee Reports:

a) **Net Manager** Julie McCrary KT4JR

The nets are going fine, with an average of 17 check-ins per net.

b) **Public Service Director** Jeremy Lindsley K2HJX

c) **Education Director** Brad Bazemore KK4PWJ

d) **FM Repeater Chair** John Hollowell K4JAH

The Repeaters committee has been testing their remote monitoring systems such as shack temperature, power and battery backup.

Later this week, John will be setting up a temporary repeater at another location in North Hills to test how well it receives the 64 input.

John also informed the board that the contact for the 64 tower strongly advised us not to replace the antenna or do any tower work because of the aging condition of the tower. If RARS decides to replace the antenna, it will have to be identical to the one currently installed.

The 70cm digital station will be moved from RTP to The Eastern.

Alan AB4OZ suggested the Repeaters Committee get a network-connected watt meter to monitor existing site performance while unoccupied.

e) **Club License Trustees** Bob Starkenburg W4TTX

f) **EXciter Editor** Tom Lewis N4TL

Tom has been having issues running MS Publisher but was able to run it on another computer.

g) **RARS*fest* Chair** Nancy Torborg KB2TNR

The Committee will meet via Zoom on Thursday to apply for the ARRL hamfest grant.

h) **Food Service Chair** OPEN

i) **ARRL Liaison** Chuck Littlewood K4HF

j) **NC QSO Party Chair** Marty Young W4MY

k) **Field Day Chair** Marty Young W4MY *pro tem*

l) **RARS VE Coordinators** Richard Hall KR4LH

RARS will host two testing sessions this month, one at Cary SwapFest. Rich is arranging VE volunteers.

m) **RARS Webmaster** Will Gwaltney WA4GK

n) **Youth Chairman** OPEN

o) **At Large Director** Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ

p) **At Large Director** Tadd Torborg KA2DEW

q) **At Large Director** Ryan Reed N7RYN

Ryan congratulated everyone for a great Field Day! While there, he met with Rodney Warren of Wake County AUXCOMM.

r) **Past President** Fin Gold NC4FG

RARS Board of Directors Meeting minutes continued

8) Other Comments

Greg KE4PAX noticed a significant uptick in the number of new members being women and suggested an initiative to support having more young women on the air.

9) Adjournment

President O'Connor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion being made and seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Kurland KR4BTW, RARS Secretary

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes

July 14, 2026, 7:30 PM

1. Call to Order and Welcome – President Tony O'Connor K1OC called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. He reminded participants of a few tips about using Zoom.

2. Quorum Call: in-person + Zoom: President O'Connor asked secretary Josh KR4BTW whether a quorum was achieved, and he confirmed that there was a quorum.

3. Opening Comments - Tony O'Connor K1OC

Field Day Congratulations

Ham Radio Exhibit at the NC State Fair

Upcoming events:

RARS Dinner - Tuesday, July 21st

The Gathering and VE Testing - Tuesday, July 28

Board Meeting - August 4. Please contact President O'Connor if you would like to attend.

Jump back to page 4

RARS General Membership Meeting minutes continued

4. President O'Connor recognized four visitors and one upgrade to Extra.

5. Vice President's Report – Chuck Till K4RGN

   Chuck expressed his appreciation for the support he's received while going through cancer treatment.

   The future program lineup includes:

   - August - Dave Schnider N4LVD on pico balloons and WSPR as published in the IEEE Spectrum.
   - September - Mesh Communications in the Triangle
   - October - Wake County AUXCOMM
   - November - Communications for aircraft refueling
   - December - Satellite communications for ham radio.

6. Secretary's Report – Josh Kurland KR4BTW

   The minutes are up to date.

7. Treasurer's Report – Greg Seamster KE4PAX

   RARS ended the fiscal year with 621 members and 373 members have renewed for the new fiscal year. The current membership count is 626 members with 20 unlicensed members. A $750 donation has been received from NC Bicycle Club for Ham Public Service. The rent on the storage unit has been paid for the next two years and the Ridge Road Baptist Church meeting space has been paid through the end of this fiscal year.

   If you have not received a renewal reminder there will be a notice in this month's EXciter.

8. Announcements from Directors

   a) Alan AB4OZ - Hamfest

      - The Cary midsummer swap fest will be Saturday July 18th at Ritter Park.

- The Cape Fear swapfest Saturday August 8th at the Cumberland County Shrine Club in Fayetteville.

- The next AB4OZ hamfest will be August 15 at the Ridge Road Baptist Church parking lot.

- The Shelby hamfest is coming up September 4th and 5th.

9. Approval of Club Meeting Minutes: President O'Connor asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the RARS meetings for June 2026. The motion was made, seconded, and approved.

10. Door Prize Drawing - Tony O'Connor K1OC President O'Connor supervised the drawing of tickets for three door prizes. The prizes were a still-wrapped ARRL handbook, a Technicians exam study guide, a $50 gift certificate to RT Systems, and a $50 gift certificate from Alpha Antenna. The winners were: Jimmie Brown KR4MNJ, Frank Scaraglino KA2FWC and Mark Freeze WD4KSE.

11. Vice President Chuck Till K4RGN introduced the evening presentation,

    The New Aurora Radios from Flex,

    presented by Tim Ellison W4TME

12. Following the program President O'Connor asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Kurland KR4BTW, RARS Secretary

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